

Visit the Web site for information about Hurricane Katrina debris in the northern Gulf of Mexico and access:

- Printable maps
- Interactive maps
- Downloadable GPS coordinates
- Updates on marine debris surveys and issues
- Selected hazard notifications
- Images of some obstructions
- Debris data analysis

CONTACT US

For information on the Gulf of Mexico Marine Debris Project, email gomdebris@noaa.gov, visit <http://gulfofmexico.marinedebris.noaa.gov> or contact one of the representatives listed below.

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Marine Debris



Submerged marine debris
can harm your boat
and your gear.

If you boat in coastal Louisiana,
Mississippi or Alabama,
there's free help on the Web.

<http://gulfofmexico.marinedebris.noaa.gov>



MARINE DEBRIS IN THE GULF OF MEXICO

Storm surge and winds from Hurricane Katrina left huge amounts of wreckage and waste in the northern Gulf of Mexico. Though the surface may look calm, sunken marine debris poses a hazard to boats and fishing gear.

In response, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is conducting underwater surveys off the coasts of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, and is using the data to create debris maps to assist boaters and guide removal.

The Gulf of Mexico Marine Debris Project is a joint effort between NOAA's Office of

Response and Restoration and Office of Coast Survey. The Louisiana Sea Grant College Program and Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium are conducting project outreach.

GET INFORMED

Free information is available at <http://gulfofmexico.marinedebris.noaa.gov/>. The Web site includes maps that can be downloaded and printed, as well as an interactive Internet mapping server (IMS) that provides information on each item identified. The IMS allows users to focus on a small area and to highlight unique data layers, such as navigation aids and water depth.



Information from the survey is being used by state and federal agencies tasked with removing marine debris left by Hurricane Katrina. More than 5,000 items have been identified so far, and cleanup is under way in many areas.

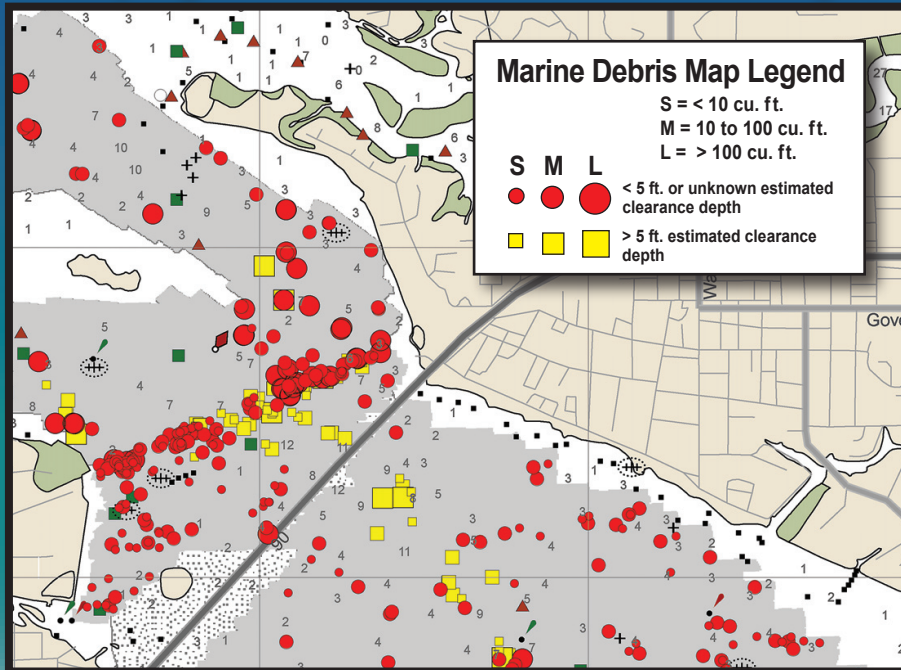
Downloadable GPS coordinates, images of some obstructions, selected hazard notifications and news on the cleanup process also are available online.

Boaters without Internet access may receive maps and information by writing or telephoning a representative listed in the "Contacts" section of this brochure.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Survey work began in September 2006 using side scan sonar to image the sea floor and locate marine debris. Measurements were also taken to determine the depth of each obstruction and to update nautical charts. The project Web site and maps are regularly updated. Additionally, the Gulf of Mexico Marine Debris Project team will produce planning documents to aid in the aftermath of future storms.

<http://gulfofmexico.marinedebris.noaa.gov>



Printable maps like this show the location and approximate size and depth of debris off the coasts of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.